

Remarks

Claims 24, 27 and 34-36 have been rejected over Miller et. al U.S. Patent No. 4,068,379, while the remaining claims are rejected only under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, but indicated as otherwise allowable.

Rejected claims 24, 27 and 34-36 are being canceled without prejudice to pursuing the claimed subject matter in a divisional or continuing application. Amendments are made to claim 1 and certain dependent claims to clarify the claims by substituting "pad" for "base", which was ambiguous. Claim 1 and the remaining claims further include amendments to overcome the objections to the specification and the rejections to the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In particular, the term "base" is replaced in the claims with the term "pad" to overcome the inconsistency with the specification as pointed out by the Examiner. It is submitted that this overcomes the objection to the specification and the rejections to the claims based on 35 U.S.C. § 112.

For the reasons stated above, it is submitted that the pending claims, as amended, are allowable. Accordingly, an early allowance is respectfully requested.

If any charges or credits are necessary to complete this communication, please apply them to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

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